(c) the main steps he has now considered to take to wipe out the corruption in the country and to what extent these measures have helped in reducing and checking the corruption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Prime Minister in his address at the XVII Biennial Conference of CBI and State Anti-Corruption Bureaux on August 26, 2009 stressed on the need to combat corruption which distorts the rule of law and weakens institutions of governance and at the same time hurts economic growth etc. He also mentioned that pervasive corruption discourages investors who expect fair treatment and transparent dealing when dealing with public authorities. The Hon'ble Prime Minister in his address has emphasized that the battle against corruption has to be fought at many levels. The design of development programmes should provide for more transparency and accountability. Systems and procedures should be made more transparent, simpler, decentralized and less discretionary. The 2nd Administrative Reforms Commission gave wide range of recommendations in this regard in its report on "Ethics in Governance" which was examined in great detail. Government remains committed to transparent and accountable governance with zero tolerance to corruption.

Need of experts in Administration

†818. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that country's current administration required involvement of several experts;

(b) if so, whether Government has entrusted the responsibility to certain people in the administration over last few months;

(c) if so, the names of these experts; and

(d) Government's future plan in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (d) Government engages experts from different fields as and when required. Such engagement brings specialized knowledge which may not always be available with career civil servants. No centralized data base of these experts is maintained.

Complaints against DG of Hydrocarbons

819. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the CVC had asked for an enquiry into the complaints received by it against the Director General of Hydrocarbons;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the issues on which the enquiry is being done by the CBI; and

(d) the time-frame by which the enquiry would be completed by the CBI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The CVC has requested the CBI for discreet field verification into the alleged misuse/abuse of official position by the then Director General of Hydrocarbon in collusion with private parties.

(d) Since the matter is at the initial stage of examination, no time frame can be given for completion of enquiry.

Implementation of RTI Act

820. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the findings of a survey conducted by Public Cause Research Foundation as per which only in 34,980 cases out of total 51,128 cases, orders for giving required information were complied and thus only 27 out of 100 applicants were getting reply under RTI Act;

(b) whether it is also a fact that despite several reminders the State Governments of Sikkim and Uttar Pradesh have not given copies of RTI orders and copies of only 900 orders have been provided by Tamil Nadu Government against its claim of having passed about 40 thousand orders; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to ensure effective implementation of RTI Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) The Government, through a media report, has come to know about a study conducted by the Public Cause Research Foundation about functioning of the Information Commissions. The Study, according to the media report, concludes that a person filing an appeal with an Information Commission has 27% chance of getting information. However, as per the Annual Report of the Central Information Commission for the year 2006-07, on an average authorities under different Ministries disposed off 66% of the requests received under the RTI Act, A person under the Act has an opportunity of filing two appeals — one within the Public Authority and another with the Information Commission. The Central Information Commission disposed off 68.45% of the appeals according to the CIC Annual Report.

(b) The Central Information Commission and some other State Information Commissions are posting their orders on the website. However, the information is not centrally maintained.